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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN RE APPLICATION OF

KOICHI SUGITA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: C. COLLINS

SERIAL NO: 09/477,730 :

FILED: JANUARY 5, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1638

FOR: NOVEL VECTOR FOR INTRODUCING A GENE INTO A PLANT USING A
SELECTABLE MARKER

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated December 24, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

A discussion of the **Support for the Amendments** begins at page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.